

POTOMAC AND RAPPAHANNOCK
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (PRTC)

OFFICIAL COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

DATE: November 4, 2010
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: PRTC Transit Center
14700 Potomac Mills Road, 2nd Floor
Woodbridge, VA 22192-6811

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman May called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m., with a quorum present.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

*Richard Anderson	Virginia House of Delegates
*Maureen Caddigan	Prince William County
*Corey Hill	Department of Rail & Public Transportation
*Fred Howe	City of Fredericksburg
*John Jenkins	Prince William County
*Jerry Logan, Secretary	Spotsylvania County
*Michael May, Chairman	Prince William County
*Paul Milde, Treasurer	Stafford County
*Jackson Miller	Virginia House of Delegates
*Gary Skinner	Spotsylvania County
*Susan Stimpson	Stafford County
*Jonathan Way, Vice Chairman	City of Manassas

ALTERNATES PRESENT

*Lorraine Lasch	Prince William County
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STAFF AND GENERAL PUBLIC

Gina Altis	PRTC Executive Assistant
Doris Chism	PRTC Dir., Customer Service & Dispatch
Art Clark	FIRST TRANSIT Safety & Training Manager

Rob Dickerson
Joyce Embrey
Althea Evans
Anthony Foster
Bill Rolley
Denny St. Denis
Shanta Garth
Al Harf
Robb Howell
Todd Johnson
Bob Liebbrandt
Steve MacIsaac
Mary Marshall
Eric Marx
Jennifer Mouchantaf
Ginger Murphy
Paul Pitchke
Dale Zehner

PRTC Legal Counsel
PRTC Dir., Finance & Administration
PRTC Dir., Marketing & Communications
PRTC Transportation Project Manager
PRTC Senior Bus Monitor
PRTC Facilities & Grounds Manager
FIRST TRANSIT AGM-Accounting & Admin.
PRTC Executive Director
FIRST TRANSIT General Manager
FIRST TRANSIT Maintenance Manager
PWC Budget & Analysis
VRE Legal Counsel
PRTC Accounting & Budget Manager
PRTC Dir., Planning & Operations
VRE Deputy Chief Executive Officer
PRTC Transit Operations Planner
FIRST TRANSIT AGM-Operations
VRE Chief Executive Officer

MEMBERS ABSENT

Wally Covington
Frank Jones,
Immediate Past Chairman
Martin Nohe
Frank Principi
Toddy Puller

Prince William County
City of Manassas Park

Prince William County
Prince William County
Virginia Senate

ALTERNATES ABSENT

Ateeb Ahmad
David Awbrey
Hilda Barg
Hap Connors
Harry Crisp
Mark Dudenhefer
Brad Ellis
Darrel Feasel
Sushas Naddoni
Hal Parrish
Benjamin Pitts
Sorine Preli
Corey Stewart
John Stirrup
William Wren

Prince William County
Department of Rail & Public Transportation
Prince William County
Spotsylvania County
Stafford County
Stafford County
City of Fredericksburg
Department of Rail & Public Transportation
City of Manassas Park
City of Manassas
Spotsylvania County
Prince William County
Prince William County
Prince William County
City of Manassas Park

*Voting Member

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RES 10-11-01 Minutes of October 7, 2010.
[PRTC\Minutes]

Commissioner Milde moved, with a second by Commissioner Caddigan, to approve the Minutes, as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. (MILDE\CADDIGAN; WITH MAJORITY VOTE, LASCH ABSTAINED)

8. AGENDA APPROVAL

RES 10-11-02 Agenda of November 4, 2010.
[PRTC\Agenda]

Commissioner Jenkins moved, with a second by Commissioner Milde, to approve the Agenda, as presented. There was no discussion on the motion. (JENKINS\MILDE, UNANIMOUS)

9. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

RES 10-11-03 Consent Agenda of November 4, 2010.
[PRTC\Consent Agenda]

Commissioner Skinner moved, with a second by Commissioner Caddigan, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. (SKINNER\CADDIGAN, UNANIMOUS)

RES 10-11-04 A. Treasurer's Report.
[PRTC\Finance]

Accepted the Treasurer's Report for period ended August 31, 2010, as presented. (SKINNER\CADDIGAN, UNANIMOUS)

RES 10-11-05 B. Release and Supersede \$234,500 from PRTC Resolution
[Manassas Park] 09-11-07 to Support Other Transportation Projects.

Authorized the release of \$234,500 of residual funds associated with the Mathis Avenue/Manassas Drive and the Euclid Avenue/Manassas Drive intersections improvement projects, so these funds could be unencumbered for other, future purposes, as presented. (SKINNER\CADDIGAN, UNANIMOUS)

10. VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS (VRE)

[VRE\Info] A. Operations Board Meeting Agenda and Minutes of
October 15, 2010. There were no comments.

[VRE\Info]

B. Chief Executive Officer's Report (10-10).

Mr. Zehner reported the average daily ridership for the month of October was 17,500, which marks the tenth consecutive month where average daily ridership was above 17,000. VRE realized its highest ridership day ever on October 13th carrying 19,322 riders. The top ten ridership days occurred in 2010 (five of those days occurring since Keolis assumed operation of the VRE service on July 1st).

Mr. Zehner went on to report that system-wide on-time performance for the month of October was 89%. October on-time performance for the Fredericksburg line was 88% and the Manassas line was 90%. Service problems did occur in October due to the inclement weather (i.e. flood restrictions on both the Fredericksburg and Manassas lines) and some morning service was cancelled on the Manassas line because of a low hanging power line.

Continuing, Mr. Zehner reported that Prince William County commenced construction on October 15th to add approximately 180 parking spaces to the Broad Run VRE station. Construction is planned to be completed this winter.

Concluding, Mr. Zehner reported the annual VRE "emergency drill" will take place on Saturday, November 13, on the CSX right-of-way in Springfield. First responders from the City of Alexandria and the Counties of Fairfax and Prince William Fire and Rescue, the FBI, FRA, and TSA will participate. VRE is seeking 150 volunteers to act as injured passengers. The hospital is also involved for the first time this year and will transport people from the drill site to the hospital. A "table-top" exercise will also occur on November 11th in Fairfax County.

RES 11-10-06

C. Sell of Ten Railcars and Three Locomotives.

[VRE]

Commissioner Caddigan moved, with a second by Commissioner Milde, to authorize the VRE Chief Executive Officer to execute a sales agreement for ten Gallery railcars and three GP-40 locomotives with the U.S. Army for a total of \$250,000. There was no discussion on the motion. (CADDIGAN\MILDE, UNANIMOUS)

11. CHAIRMAN'S TIME

[PRTC\Info]

A. PRTC Executive Committee Meeting.

Chairman May announced that the Executive Committee will meet on December 2, 2010, at the PRTC Transit Center, to develop a proposed slate of officers for calendar year 2011 and conclude the annual evaluation of the Executive Director's performance.

[PRTC\Info] B. Expression of Appreciation – Bill Rolley.

Chairman May recognized PRTC Senior Bus Monitor Bill Rolley for ten years of service with PRTC. Mr. Rolley was presented with a token of appreciation and certificate on behalf of the Commission.

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S TIME

[PRTC\Info] A. Executive Director's Report.

Legislatively speaking, Mr. Harf noted it is quiet because attention has been focused on the mid-term elections. On the federal side, Congressional action will be needed during the "lame duck" session to extend the commuter benefit beyond the calendar year. Nearly three-quarters of VRE's ridership and PRTC's OmniRide ridership are recipients of the commuter benefit. If the \$230.00/month commuter benefit is not extended beyond the end of the calendar year, it rolls back to \$120.00/month meaning VRE and PRTC riders who receive the commuter benefit would have an instantaneous fare increase of \$110.00/month.

On the state side, Mr. Harf reported the Administration has not forged a consensus as yet about its signature proposal to increase transportation funding – privatization of the ABC stores. The Governor has nixed the idea of a special session meaning the proposal will be taken up during the regular session beginning in January.

Continuing, Mr. Harf noted a proposed state and federal legislative agenda appears in this month's Board kit as an information item to allow for a relaxed discussion about its prospective provisions before Commission action is sought. Both the state and federal legislative agendas will be produced in final form for consideration at the December and March meetings, respectively.

In conclusion, Mr. Harf reported that significant headway has been made with the DC DOT on resolving longstanding issues involving "slugs" and traffic impediments that hamper bus movement. At this time, Mr. Marx gave a brief overview about changes taking place in downtown DC that will impact slug locations and some PRTC bus stops.

[PRTC\Action] B. Action Items:

RES 10-11-07 1. MACRO Task Order Two.
[PRTC\MACRO]

Commissioner Jenkins moved, with a second by Commissioner Howe, to authorize the issuance of a second task order to MACRO Corporation for \$147,577 to complete technical specifications (phase one) and assist in the conduct of the procurement (phase two) plus a 10 percent contingency allowance of \$14,758. There was no discussion on the motion. (JENKINSHOWE, UNANIMOUS)

RES 10-11-08
[PRTC\RAB]

2. Retention of Rail Advisory Board (RAB) Plea for PRTC.

Commissioner Milde moved, with a second by Commissioner Caddigan, to authorize the PRTC Chairman to communicate the Commission's view that the Rail Advisory Board (RAB) should be retained not eliminated. There was no discussion on the motion. (MILDE\CADDIGAN, UNANIMOUS)

Commissioner Miller asked if a substitution motion could be offered. Chairman May granted the request. Commissioner Miller moved that the issue be tabled until the December meeting to allow time for additional fact-finding about how Governor McDonnell's Governmental Reform Commission came to the conclusion that elimination of the RAB is advisable and Commissioner Stimpson seconded, for discussion purposes only.

Vice Chairman Way reminded the Commission that the Governmental Reform Commission has been directed to submit its recommendations to the Governor no later than December 1, 2010.

Following further discussion, Commissioner Miller restated his motion to table the issue until the December meeting to allow time for additional fact-finding about how Governor McDonnell's Governmental Reform Commission came to its conclusion and Commissioner Anderson seconded. Chairman May called the vote on the substitute motion – Miller/Anderson Aye; Caddigan/Howe/Jenkins/Lasch/ Logan/May/Milde/Skinner/Stimpson/Way opposed; Hill abstained. The motion failed.

At this time, Chairman May returned to the original motion/second whereby Commissioner Milde moved, with a second by Commissioner Caddigan, to authorize the PRTC Chairman to communicate the Commission's view that the Rail Advisory Board (RAB) should be retained not eliminated. There was no further discussion on the motion. (MILDE\CADDIGAN; WITH MAJORITY VOTE, MILLER/ANDERSON OPPOSED, HILL ABSTAINED)

[PRTC\Info] C. Information Items:

1. Federal and State Legislative Agendas for 2010-2011. Mr. Harf reiterated that the Commission will be asked to take action at its December meeting on the state legislative agenda. He highlighted the fact that the state legislative agenda as drafted calls for an increase in the 2.1% motor fuels tax to help solve the transportation funding problem, and he invited reaction to that provision in particular. It became clear in the course of the ensuing discussion that the Commission was uncomfortable with that provision, prompting Mr. Harf to pledge to remove it. Mr. Harf went on to say that the Commission will be asked to take action on the federal legislative agenda at its March meeting.
2. Fleet Maintenance Audit. There were no further comments.

3. Customer Satisfaction Survey Results. There were no comments.
4. District Slugging Plan Meeting. There were no comments.
5. PRTC Service Performance Reports. There were no comments.
6. PRTC Budget-to-Actual Comparison. There were no comments.
7. Communications:
 - a. Related to Funding. There were no comments.
 - b. Related to Jurisdiction. There were no comments.
 - c. General Interest. There were no comments.

13. OTHER BUSINESS/COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Commissioner Jenkins commended Mr. Harf on taking the time to meet with Commissioners from PRTC's bus-sponsoring jurisdictions on an individual basis.

Chairman May wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chairman May adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 2, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: PRTC Transit Center
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Woodbridge, VA 22192-6811
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